

## House Minutes #6

One recent pleasant evening, perhaps a poet would have called it the swan song of our good weather, I sat down with a respected social critic and role models. A latter day de Tocqueville, for years he has provided us with inspiration and good humor and even a better understanding of our own lives. Please join me as we re-enter the Playaz Studio<sup>1</sup> for a (partially edited) interview with Eric Michael Fish.<sup>2</sup>

**FISH:** Goddamn I got an audience now, I feel like fuckin' Shakespeare.

**NED:** Okay, Bill, why is that Hitchcock should hear what you have to say?

**FISH:** Because I already have some converts in ODB and Adam Hocker. The rest of you have to rock. [Coughs] I am already choking on my booze, I feel like chris farley.

**NED:** You say you have converts. Do you like to mold people in your image?

**FISH:** I like to position them for the best penetration of my mind they have possible. [Stuff about handcuffs whips chains yoyos, maybe something about midgets].

**NED:** The things you say seem to have double meanings. Is this intentional?

**FISH:** I tell it like it is.

**NED:** Are you a straight talker?

**FISH:** I am a straight shooter, straight against the headboard of the bed.

**NED:** Do you like children?

**FISH:** I love children. They're like little mes, mini-mes if you will. I am like peter pan, five year old never grown. Five year old mind, twenty year old body.

**NED:** I have you always thought of as an old man.

**FISH:** All chicks should be called broads.

**NED:** So are you an immature old man?

**FISH:** I am a mature young man.

**NED:** How are you mature?

**FISH:** My voice stopped cracking.

**NED:** I'm surprised you weren't more graphic.

**FISH:** Doesn't exist in my vocabulary.

**NED:** What does exist in your vocabulary?

**FISH:** Potty-mouth words. Like motherfucker ass and bullshit.

**NED:** Do you think of yourself as a smooth talker?

**FISH:** As smooth as sandpaper. Rough spots make smoothness. Jesus Christ that was a lot of rum you put in that glass. I got a paper to write. Ask me a question.

**NED:** Do girls understand you?

**FISH:** No. That is why I drink alone and sleep alone.

**NED:** Does that bother you?

**FISH:** No, twin beds were made for one person, not two.

**NED:** [A light goes on in Snell] I see that you're scoping out who is in the dorm right now. Do you keep tabs on who enters?

**FISH:** No, but I keep tabs on who leaves in the morning.

**NED:** Could you explain the walk of shame?

**FISH:** Wake up before 6:30 you don't get caught. Wake up after, your ass got VD, 'cause there were many before you.

**NED:** Why do you just put your head down on the table?

**FISH:** I'm ashamed of the 1st years in this dorm complex.

**NED:** Why ashamed?

**FISH:** They ain't fucking rocking. Put that in. I like that.

**NED:** What's so funny?

**FISH:** No dudes getting play, except Jimmy Waters. For God sakes, he was elected freshmen president, you gotta convince a lotta women to get that, if you know what mean. He's a mini-Johnny Kennedy. I want that in there. I like that.

**NED:** Last year at the interview, people around, lotsa love. Why this year just us and a lot of hard liquor?

**FISH:** Hard liquor? Hard liquor is cheaper than the sluts this year. Gotta take a leak. Cover me.

**NED:** Do you want them to know you called them sluts?

**FISH:** They're not sluts they're broads. Sluts put out, broads don't.

**NED:** Why the misogyny?

**FISH:** What's that mean?

**NED:** Why the dislike of the opposite sex?

**FISH:** I sleep alone in a cold bed,

**NED:** Jill?

**FISH:** Always an option, sometimes has blisters. Guys turn your hand inside out, read the letters. We definitely gotta have some edits. I can't focus on the screen. You wrote that? You are a tool.

**NED:** What is it that makes you happy?

**FISH:** A warm woman and a cold beer, and some house activities.

**NED:** Let me read to you a synopsis of the last house meeting. What do you have to say about it?

***Complaints about signs being torn down.***

***Saleem suggested fines for torn down signs.***

***Any sign posted has to do with a specific event.***

***Signs must be taken down after even takes placet.***

***Name and room # of person posting must be on sign.***

***Limit of 1 sign per section.***

**FISH:** Section 1 doesn't need a couch, because they all have hemorrhoids [short break while I try to spell hemorrhoids]. All them are anal about studying and closed on partying. Therefore they suck. Section 2 is attempting some hedonism but the type of hedonism that occurs in heaven. Dirty thoughts but clean actions. They want VD but no itch [laughs] That's horrible.

**NED:** Why are you so goddamn bitter?

**FISH:** Three years in the same room two girls one purpose. To be President of the United States of America. You do the math. Kennedy had multiple girls, multiple rooms. I want to be that way, too.

<sup>1</sup> No animals were harmed during the production of this interview, although enough alcohol was consumed to kill a horse.

<sup>2</sup> Go to the ***bold italics*** if you want to know about the meeting

**NED:** Do you want to be the next Catholic President of United States?

**FISH:** I would , but I think Tom Ridge is going to beat me to it.

[Greg Strom walks by]

Greg Strom, what's up boss. Did I just call him boss?

**NED:** Why are you so vulgar this year?

**FISH:** I relate to people. They have vulgarity, therefore I am vulgar. People don't have time to think about words that are longer than four or five letters.

**NED:** What are some longer words that you like?

**FISH:** Conservative, constructivism. I can't think of any more long words that I like. Paddy wagon. That 's a word I like. And boof. That's four letters. But it's long in my book.

[A dude walks by]

Whose that dude, what up dude? Dave Schwarz is the dude.<sup>3</sup> Dave Schwarz pawn to rook 3, put a chess term in there.

**NED:** Why is Dave Schwarz the dude?

**FISH:** There is some definite Columbia grammar school pride. The CGPS loves every member no matter how toolish they are, including Ned Tyrrell.

**NED:** Why no love?

**FISH:** New York sucks dick. No world championship, no love, oh shit [fumbles and drops cell phone].

**NED:** What time is it?

**FISH:** 4:30.

**NED:** That better not be a Spin Doctors reference.

**FISH:** That definitely is.

**NED:** Why are you talking on the cell?

**FISH:** Cause I have one and I feel like I am an east coast prep fuck.

[Fish walks away from table, talks on phone]

I dunno. I'm fucked up. [incomprehensible chatter, laughing]. You're the first name I saw that I knew would be up, so I called you. Are you with O'Connell? Oh, lesbian alright. You know butthead? Say hi. This is junker. Say hi. Oh no. Dropped the phone. Is this junker? The guy looks like butthead. Jew nose, Jew fro, irish eyes. Didn't know they had Jews in Calumet City. I went to dinner with his dad. Your mom from Cal city?

**NED:** No she's from Rye, New York.

**FISH:** Junker says your dad is not only successful guy to come out of Calumet City. [mumbling] No shit dude it's the bible. I gotta take a piss. No wait wait wait listen. You hear that? Oh no, someone coming outside.

[David Ericsson comes out, Fish talks to him]

What's up dude? [To Junker] I talked with Billy Joel last night. Oh, put in that Junker went to a strip club last night.

**DAVID:** How long has he been like this?

**NED:** Hours.

**DAVID:** He's a little bit soused. Tell him to put a coat on, he going to catch cold.

**FISH:** [Burps] Oh no, going to puke. Hey I'm going to ultimate fighting at the Hammond civic center. Aww, booo urns. [Incomprehensible and rapid mumbling] Oh, no I said that? Oh booo urns. Butthead, Superman is on the twenty six million different encores. [Back to Junker] You drink at all? You sober? You got issues.

**NED:** What does boo urns mean?

**FISH:** [Ignores me] You gotta call me tomorrow. I am not going to remember this. I just called you 'cause this is first thing I saw. I ain't goin' on no fucking bus. What do you [trails off] Yeah, him and Seth Cauman's mom. They lost today? Cause Dave Kostopolis is center? Put in Scott Nielsen.<sup>4</sup>

**DAVID:** What made him like this?

**NED:** So Co.

**FISH:** Alright. I gotta go to sleep or turds or something like that. You're the first I talked to. [Singing] You're the one, you break my heart. You don't know it? Paul Simon's Make 10 angels song. I am a piece of shit. Put that in the minutes. I am a piece of shit. All right .Rock n roll. [Hangs up] That was the most incoherent phone call I ever had. [Amazed] You writing this down?

**NED:** Yup.

**FISH:** I'm calling Arjun. Where's Tricia? [On phone] You're not Arjun. Who are you? Are you Rod? Are you Rod Munch? Put Arjun on the phone you fucking tool. Yeah I calling you a fucking tool. Put Arjun on the phone. Pat Yee? Pat Yee? Is it Pat Yee on the phone? No shit. Pat Yee? What are you doing in Portland. What is it? Eugene? Portland? Why you answering Arjun's phone. Put him on? Are you Pat Yee? Why you gotta go? Don't say bye. I just got hung up. Interview's ended. Go to bed. [We go back into Section 5. Fish sings a Tom Hafen song]

**NED:** Fish, I am putting my laptop away.

**FISH:** OK, I talk to Reid and the Swizz. [I am listening from my room, copying the conversation down on my whiteboard]

**FISH:** Ned and me are lovers. Let's go Section 4 and find Tessel. Good night Reid and Swiz!

**SAM:** Hey Fish.

**FISH:** What?

**SAM:** Why Swiz?

**FISH:** You're just the Swiz.

**SAM:** I Swiz then. [We go to Section 4]

**FISH:** I'm going to bed.

**TRICIA:** Are you going to be okay?

**FISH:** I've made it back in much worse condition.

**NED:** I can vouch for that. [The two leave for a moment, Tricia returns]

**NED:** Is Fish going to bed?

**TRICIA:** Yeah. He said you shouldn't print half the stuff he said.

**NED:** That's a good idea.

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<sup>3</sup> Schwarz is a Psi U who in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade was on the Columbia Grammar chess team with me. He is known at Alpha Delt as "the Dude," as in "Dave Schwarz is the Dude."

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<sup>4</sup> According to Fish, "scrubs" of the Thornton Fractional South High School Football team.